# **Utah Studies Advanced**

Disclosure Document

Ms. Forbush Room 218

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**MCj04374270000[1]Course Description: Utah is a state diverse in landscape and people.** This course will investigate relationships between government and the people of Utah. Research, writing, problem solving, and critical and creative thinking skills will be developed as students are exposed to the unique history of Utah.

Midvale Middle School is an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme Candidate School. MYP helps students become critical thinkers, connects subject areas and allows students to apply their learning to the real world. Additional information can be found at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org). MYP units will be taught throughout this course.

A course outline detailing the main concepts of each MYP unit can be found on my wikispace.

Students will earn MYP grades in additional to their normal district academic grade. MYP grades are numerical and are based on criterion set by the International Baccalaureate. Students will be assessed on the MYP Humanities criteria at least two times throughout this course. The MYP Humanities criteria include: Criterion A: Knowledge, Criterion B: Concepts, Criterion C: Skills, and Criterion D: Organization and Presentation. A PowerPoint explaining how you may check your students MYP grades is available under the MYP tab at our school website <http://midvalemiddle.canyonsdistrict.org>

**This is a Classroom of Excellence, described on the next page.**

**Materials that are brought to class EVERYDAY:**

**A. Spiral Notebook**- Students are required to keep all their class notes in a journal separate from other classes. I will randomly collect these notebooks.

**B. Pencil, Pen, and Dry Erase Marker**

**C. Colored Pencils -** Students are required to have a set of colored pencils.

**D.** **Folder** – This will be used to hold work and assignments

**Assignments: Notes**: A daily summary of what we did in class. This will be checked periodically and without notice. **Tests, Quizzes, and Learning Activities** will all be graded objectively. They will be corrected and returned within one week of the due date. **Homework** will be assigned and are activities that help us delve further into our study of Utah. There is no late work but students can use two “oops” passes per quarter. Students excused from school will be given adequate time to make up missed work. **Please note:** Other students may see your child’s work and may even see a score but will not know their grade.

**Attendance Policy:** Students need to attend class so they will be academically successful. Students who miss class for legitimate reasons will be allowed to make up work. Students who are Truant will lose their 5 citizenship points per day; as well as the points for the assignments they miss that day and will not be allowed to make up the assignments. Students who are tardy will automatically lose 3 citizenship points out of their 5 daily points.

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Give respect to get respect.

2. Your behavior should contribute to the learning of all students in the class.

3. Honesty is expected.

4. School rules are honored in this class.

5. No food or drink in class.

**Failure to follow the rules will result in student/teacher consultation, and I will also contact the student’s parents.**

Classroom of Excellence Disclosure Statement

We view this class as a three-way partnership consisting of teachers, students, and parents. A student cannot complete the requirements alone, a parent cannot support a child alone, and a teacher cannot facilitate learning alone. Student success takes all parties working together to provide a quality education and to monitor the earning of grades and credit. It is our hope that all students will take advantage of the opportunities available to them throughout this school year.

***Our greatest hope is that every student will take advantage of all opportunities made available to them this year.***

**To strive towards success, we have certain expectations of ourselves, our students and their parents.**

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| **TEACHERS will be effective learning facilitators by:** | **STUDENTS will be successful learners by:** | **PARENTS will** **make educational requirements a priority in the home by:** |
| 1. PROVIDING meaningful and challenging lessons that honor individualistic styles of learning. | 1. DOING assignments, KNOWING expectations, LEARNING concepts, and THINKING critically. | 1. ASSISTING your student TO BALANCE school, home and personal responsibilities. (Examples: setting study times and bed times, establishing good dietary habits, etc.) |
| 2. BEING PREPARED for and ON TIME to class each day. | 2. BEING ON TIME to class. | 2. CHECKING your student’s planner daily to see if they have work due for this class. |
| 3. HELPING students understand concepts, requirements and due dates. | 3. BRINGING the necessary materials each day: blue/black pen, pencil, paper, personal reading materials, and any assignments due. | 3. RECHECKING to see if assignments have been completed. |
| 4. ASSESSING and DISCUSSING completed assignments. | 4. LeavING all electronics (MP3 players, cell phones, games, etc.) turned off and out of sight. | 4. ATTENDING parent/teacher conferences, or call/email if a problem or question arises. |
| 5. UPDATING Skyward each week (some assignments may take up to 2 weeks to correct). | 5. OBTAINING the required ASSIGNMENTS, and UNDERSTANDING how to complete them. | 5. KNOWING your student’s current grade in this class. |
| 6. REMAINING OPEN to student, parent and administrative input. | 6. LISTENING to and FOLLOWING directions as given. |  |
| 7. ATTENDING parent teacher conferences and RETURNING parent calls/emails. | 7. TURNING IN completed assignments **at the time they are DUE.** |  |
| 8. CREATING and INSURING a safe, productive learning environment. | 8. MONITORING and MANAGING your grade so you get the results you want. |  |
|  | 9. BEING A RESPONSIBLE COURIER between teacher and parent. |  |
|  | 10. CONTRIBUTING positively to the classroom atmosphere. |  |

Grade Scale:

A 100-94 B+ 89-87 C+ 79-77 ***F 69 and below*** (Notice there are no Ds… that is not a mistake)

A- 93-90 B 86-83 C 76-73 A student in the F range should set up an appointment with teacher

B- 82-80 C- 72-70 to write an academic contract to improve the grade.

Student grades can be checked on Skyward 24 hours a day. You should have received log in information through the mail.

**Classroom of Excellence Common Requirements**

Just as everyone learns differently, all teachers teach differently and have different definitions of what “Excellence” looks like. The following is a list of requirements that we, as teachers, consider “Excellence.”

1. No retakes on tests – there may be “Reflective Make-ups” (teacher discretion)

2. Tardies will be minus participation points (amount determined by teacher).

3. All papers will be labeled with the following heading in the upper right hand corner of the paper: First and Last Name, Date, Class Period, and Name of Assignment. Point deductions will be determined by teacher.

4. Planners will be checked randomly twice a month for the following: no mutilation and daily usage. Points will be determined by teacher.

5. Hall Passes will not be given unless the student presents his or her planner to the teacher with the hall pass portion completely filled out.

6. Quality work must be turned in. Quality work means that assignments are neatly written on standard sized paper, clean and free of stray marks or doodles, no spiral edges, and no dirty or wrinkled papers. Point deductions will be determined by teacher.

7. Electronic devices are NOT to be used or seen during class time. This is your first warning. Devices will be taken away and given to the administration as a second warning.

8. Cheating results in an automatic 0 and NO makeup opportunities will be given. Plagiarism is cheating. Individual teachers will add personal definitions of cheating.

**Videos: To bring history to life I utilize educational videos and video clips (PG and below). Please be aware that is a part of our curriculum but are very purposefully and carefully shown. If you have any concerns feel free to contact me. I will also send home permission slips for movies (PG) when we watch it in its entirety.**

**The best way to reach me is by email. I encourage parental involvement and contact. I look forward to knowing you! My only desire is for each student to be success. I am available by appointment.**

**Please also make yourself familiar with my website, it is a wonderful resource for parents to know what is going on as well as a place where students can get the work they missed in class or need to make up.**

**This paper need to be signed and returned to the teacher by the end of the second week of school and is worth 25 points.**

**I have read Ms Forbush’s disclosure document. I understand that the student is required to keep this copy of the document in their journal all year. I will support the policies outlined in the disclosure document.**

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PRINT Student’s name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parental Information required:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any medical concerns or other concerns and issues that I should know about your child: